

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /080 W
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P R 091407Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5732

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9330

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, UR

SUBJECT: REPORTED KOSYGIN VISIT TO TURKEY

REF: MOSCOW 19198

1. DURING THE PAST WEEK THERE HAS BEEN A SERIES OF UNATTRIBUTED AND UNSUBSTANTIATED PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEETING BETWEEN KOSYGIN AND DEMIREL ON THE TURKISH BORDER IN EARLY DECEMBER. THESE REPORTS APPEARED IN VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS AND WERE WITHOUT EXCEPTION EITHER DISAVOWED OR DENIED BY "AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES" IN THE NEXT EDITION. IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT THESE REPORTS WERE THE BASIS OF THE INFORMATION PASSED TO EMBASSY MOSCOW BY THE FRG AMBASSADOR.

2. OUR INFORMATION ABOUT A POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN DEMIREL AND KOSYGIN IS BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN THE MFA AND IS SUPPLEMENTED BY PRESS REPORTS AND CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR DEIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES. BASED ON THAT INFORMATION, OUR BEST ESTIMATE IS THAT A HIGH-LEVEL TURKISH-SOVIET MEETING MAY TAKE
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PLACE SOME TIME DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. AT SUCH A MEETING,

A "POLITICAL DOCUMENT" COULD POSSIBLY BE SIGNED, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT AT BOTH THE POLITICAL AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS OF TURKISH GOVERNMENT, THERE IS A DEEP RELUCTANCE TO SIGN THE KIND OF DOCUMENT THAT WOULD BE SATISFACTORY TO THE SOVIETS. WE, THEREFORE, BELIEVE THAT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE SOVIET UNION ON THE TEXT OF SUCH A DOCUMENT WILL BE PROTRACTED AND THAT AGREEMENT IS NOT LIKELY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. THIS PROJECTION COULD BE CHANGED, OF COURSE, IF U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS SHOULD SUFFER A SEVERE SETBACK DURING THE PERIOD, I.E. IF THE U.S.-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA) SHOULD BE REJECTED BY CONGRESS.

3. ANOTHER FACTOR THAT BEARS ON THE NEGOTIATION OF A "POLITICAL DOCUMENT" AND ON THE SCHEDULING OF A MEETING BETWEEN DEMIREL AND KOSYGIN IS THE PROSPECT OF GENERAL ELECTIONS IN TURKEY IN 1977. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO US (AND WE SUSPECT IT IS NOT CLEAR TO DEMIREL) WHETHER PROCEEDING WITH A VISIT AND SIGNING A DOCUMENT WOULD HELP OR HURT HIM IN THOSE ELECTIONS. UNTIL THE POTENTIAL EFFECT OF THESE ACTIONS BECOMES CLEARER, DEMIREL WILL PROBABLY STALL.

4. WE ANTICIPATE THAT DURING THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS, THE SUBJECTS OF A KOSYGIN VISIT AND A "POLITICAL DOCUMENT" WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE SPORADIC PRESS ATTENTION. WE WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THESE SUBJECTS CAREFULLY AND SEEK TO PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH THE BEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE. WE INTEND TO DO THIS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID GIVING THE IMPRESSION TO THE TURKS THAT WE ARE SUFFICIENTLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF SOVIET-TURKISH AGREEMENT ON A "POLITICAL DOCUMENT" THAT THE TURKS CAN USE THAT PROSPECT AS A BARGAINING CHIP IN A BILATERAL CONTEXT.

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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